



THE MCGILL DAILY

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The last hurrah! since 1911

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STRUGGLING BACK TO LIFE

Lakes looking up; long way to go

BY SAMER MUSCATI

OTTAWA (CUP)—The most beautiful lakes are glassy, clear, calm and dead. But some lakes across Canada are slowly recovering from the barrage of chemicals that has made them so acidic that many species of fish have stopped swimming in their waters.

According to a recently-released progress report on the 1991 Canada-U.S. air quality agreement, about 33 per cent of acid lakes in Canada showed evidence of recovery from sulphate deposits, while about 16 per cent continued to acidify and get worse. Even if both countries meet their goals for a reduction in acid precipitation-causing emissions—that is, nitrogen oxides and sulphur dioxides—by the year 2000, environment groups and the Canadian government say the goals are so meek that acid precipitation is still a problem.

Under the agreement, nitrogen oxides are to be reduced by only 10 per cent by the year 2000. Sulphur dioxide emissions are to be reduced by 40 per cent in the U.S., and 50 per cent in Canada by the year 2000.

Both countries are on target for reducing nitrogen oxide emissions. Canada has already fulfilled its sulphur dioxide reduction commitment, but the U.S. still belches out more than two million tons of sulphur dioxides more than its goal on a yearly basis.

The U.S. produces more than 20 million tons of sulphur dioxides a year compared to Central and Eastern Canada's 2.3 million annual dump. So no matter how much Canada cuts back, if the U.S. doesn't meet its goals, reducing acid rain damage will be difficult.

Ellen Schwartzel, air program manager for the environmental group Pollution Probe, which researches the effects of toxic chemicals, wants new regulations to control nitrogen oxides.

Barbara Lukaszewicz, former manager of the acid rain program for Environment Canada, says, "[Acid precipitation] has fallen from public view as a concern. It is on the back-burner to other issues. The acid rain problem is not solved and it is an issue that will go beyond the year 2000."

Lukaszewicz adds: "The challenge isn't over yet. The causes for acid rain have gone down, but 10 per cent of Central and Eastern Canada will still be acidified by the year 2000."

The problem with the agreement is that it is based in the seven Central and Eastern Canadian provinces, says Kevin Jardine, atmosphere and energy campaign co-ordinator for Greenpeace. He is upset there is "not the same level

of scrutiny in Western Canada."

Jardine says that in their attempt to produce vast quantities of natural gas, Western provinces are not taking the necessary precautions, and acidic emissions are not monitored properly.

Human use of natural gas creates nitrogen oxide, which produces acid rain and snow.

But Lukaszewicz says acid precipitation "is not a Western Canadian problem" because Western region lakes are less prone to acidification due to such things as natural limestone deposits, which neutralize acids. There is also less of an industrial base in the West to produce acidic emissions.

But even in Eastern and Central Canada, some environmentalists have said the goals are set too low and governments are too complacent.

"Look at what [former Prime Minister] Pierre Trudeau was able to do. Trudeau was willing to stand up to the oil and gas industry," says Jardine. "We haven't seen that from [Prime Minister] Jean Chrétien."

Other findings from the report show that growth rates have fallen for sugar maples in Ontario and Québec in the last 30 years, and acid fog has harmed white birch in Southeastern New Brunswick.

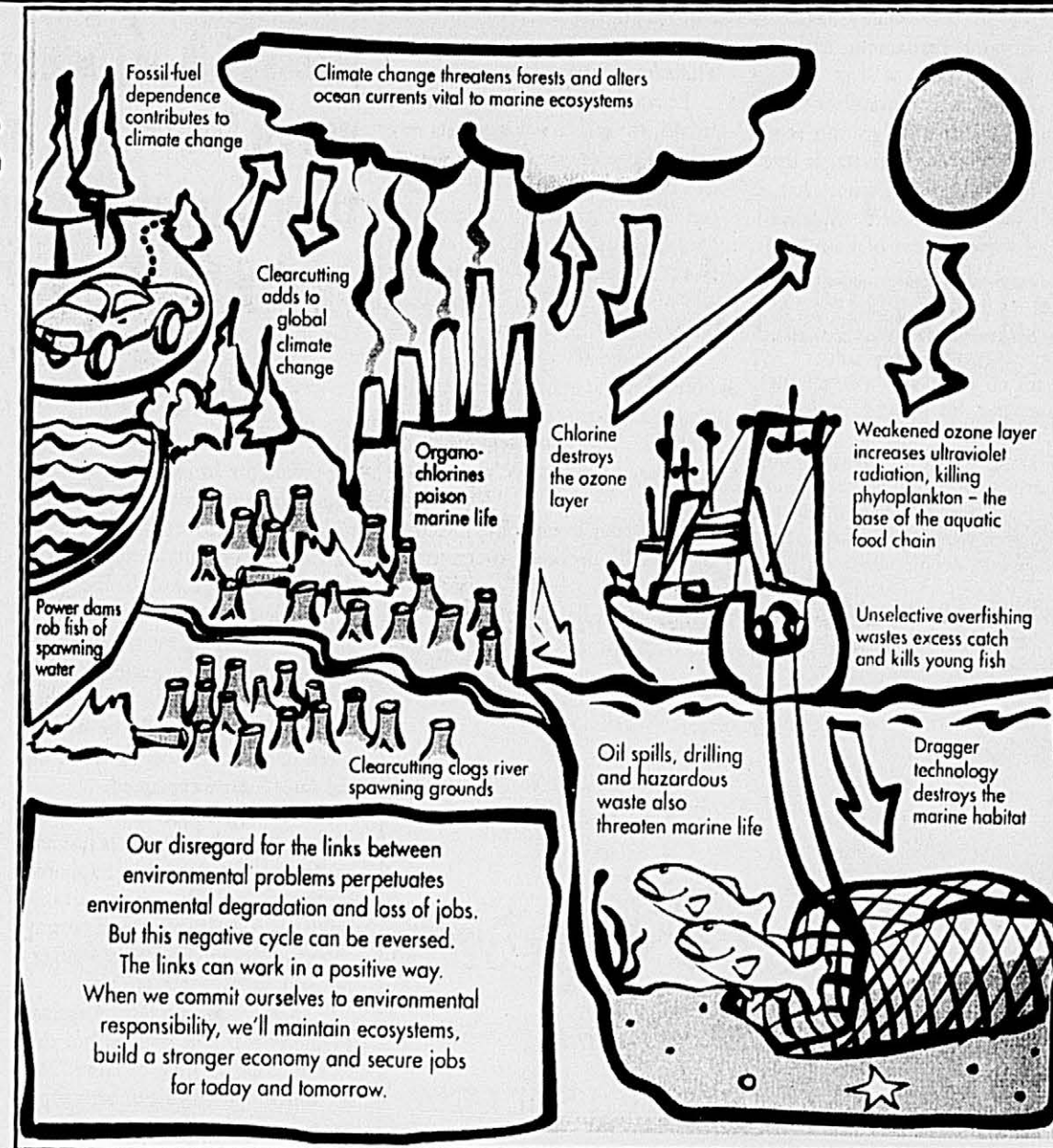
The national advisory issues co-ordinating committee, a new federal-provincial task force composed of government, industry and environment groups, will develop strategies to deal with acid precipitation over the next three years.

BY MELANIE NEWTON

Student groups are not alone in their opposition to the federal government's social security reform proposals which are scheduled to be tabled February 6 by Human Resources Minister Lloyd Axworthy.

In a speech before the standing committee on social security reform in November of last year, Sunera Thobani, chair of the umbrella National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NAC), stated the Committee's opposition to the proposals. She said that, if implemented, the reforms would be detrimental all Canadians—particularly to women, people of colour, Aboriginal people and the disabled.

NAC's primary criticism of the federal reform proposals is that they fail to



PAY ATTENTION KIDS! (Why our lakes are in sad shape)

Graphic from a Greenpeace pamphlet called "No Fish, No Forests, No Future?"
 Call Greenpeace Montréal at 933-0021 if you want a copy.

Women's groups oppose federal reforms

BY MELANIE NEWTON

address the "systemic inequality of women." Because of this, "the Social Security Review will continue to perpetuate women's inequality," said Thobani.

The discussion paper outlines a plan to cut the national deficit by cutting back federal funding to social programs. It isolates a cycle of dependency endemic in the current system. To combat this, it suggests reducing the benefits to people who repeatedly use unemployment insurance, and tying UI to job training.

The federal government also proposes eliminating cash transfer payments to provinces. These payments now go towards funding post-secondary education. The funding would be replaced by an Income Contingent Loan Repayment Plan (ICLR). Interest on the loan would start from the day the loan was received and repay-

ment would begin once the recipient had graduated and had an annual income of at least \$25 thousand.

According to the proposal, the problem in Canada is not a lack of jobs, but a lack of skilled Canadians who can fill those jobs available. Thobani disputes this claim.

"The unemployed and people living in poverty are being told they are not flexible enough, that they do not have adequate skills, that they are not 'motivated'. This destructive ideological climate is scape-goating the unemployed, people living in poverty, immigrants and refugees, and single mothers. The problem facing the country is not the lack of skills, but the lack of jobs," said Thobani.

Reinforcing social inequality
 Local NAC representative and an

Associate Professor in McGill's Faculty of Medicine Dr. Shree Mulay echoed Thobani's argument, noting, because of already existing social and economic inequalities, the reforms would have a harsher negative impact on women.

"All the social policy reforms affect women disproportionately to men. Women are likely each time to go back again and again because, if you are in a precarious job market and you are in an area of work where unemployment is high, each time you use the system you will get less and less unemployment insurance," said Mulay.

According to a 1994 *Tracking Report on the Status of Women*, the value of the federal minimum wage fell by 48 per cent from 1976 to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Legislating intolerance

Local group protests anti-immigration bill

BY ROBIN PERELLE

Having endured the storm of protest following its release last November, bill C-44 has been quietly making its way through Parliament, and may soon become law.

The bill, which promises to fuel Canada's anti-immigration sentiments by slashing admittance levels and facilitating deportation, has already passed two out of three readings in the House of Commons.

With the final reading scheduled for early February, Un Québec pour tout le monde, a local advocacy organization, wants to rekindle the opposition movement. Accordingly, they are planning a demonstration for Thursday, January 26.

Leaving Vendôme metro at 16h45, the march will wind its way towards one of Immigration Canada's detention centres — a holding pen for immigrants and refugees who have been denied residency and are awaiting deportation. Demonstrators will carry placards and a large banner saying "Welcome to Canada".

"We need as many people as possible willing to fight intolerance, racism, and measures restricting immigration," said Jean-Guy Auvé, a member of Un Québec pour tout le monde.

The group is especially incensed by the bill's proposal to deport immigrants and refugees convicted of crimes immediately following their jail term, without so much as a hear-

"We are not supposed to punish people twice for the same crime, but the new process will do just that. First they'll serve their time in jail and then they'll be deported without another hearing."

— Jean-Guy Auvé,
Un Québec pour tout le monde

ing before the Immigration Review Board. Presently, convicted non-Canadians serve their sentence and then have the opportunity to appeal their deportation in front of the independent judiciary.

"With the new law it will just be the Minister [of immigration] and his bureaucrats making the decision arbitrarily. Appellants will be denied access to an independent and impartial court," Auvé explained.

Revoking the right of non-Canadians to defend their case is just another step in Canada's xenophobic strategy to limit the amount of immigrants in the country, and portray those already established as dangerous and burdensome.

"There's a lot of pressure against immigrants in our society, but this new bill is illegal," insisted Auvé. "We are not supposed to punish people twice for the same crime, but the new

process will do just that. First they'll serve their time in jail and then they'll be deported without another hearing."

Auvé also expressed concern that many of the deportees would be shipped off to countries they barely know, as Canada seeks to shirk its responsibility for the criminal behavior of some of its inhabitants.

The bill was drafted after members of the Association of Police Chiefs and the Reform Party demanded tougher measures against non-Canadians in their quest to scapegoat a tangible group for the country's rising crime rates.

Un Québec pour tout le monde has held public assemblies to protest racism and intolerance in the past and promises to demonstrate again in the future whenever the need arises.

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LETTERS

Student unity?

TO THE DAILY,

It is not normally useful to respond to the slander in the *Daily*. After all, how can you argue with people who run their own newspaper? However, your coverage of the Axworthy proposals has been so potentially dangerous to student unity that it is time to set the record straight.

1) The SSMU has never condemned any peaceful action taken by students against the Axworthy plan, including the "strike" on January 25. You know this because you were there at the meeting on January 10 when this was discussed. You also know that the Committee for Social Justice did not request that the SSMU in on its work. You also know that we agreed that through logistical support, the SSMU could make an effective contribution.

2) The *Daily* complains that the SSMU does not consult enough. Yet last term, we mailed to the home address of every single student a preliminary view of the situation and a call for input. Many students called and were involved in the process. The *Daily's* editorial board did not. Since then, you have twice published spreads which urged students to call and complain. A grand total of two students out of 17,000 at McGill felt that they had not been given an opportunity to participate. One of them called from the *Daily* office.

3) There is no question of splitting the student movement. CASA and CFS will work together on the Axworthy plan. You know this because you were at the January 12 council meeting when this was discussed.

Granted, the *Daily* is open about its political agenda. However, printing lies and halftruths is a sign of cowardice, not confidence, in your positions. If you have a point, the facts should be enough to prove it.

Please call me at 3986798 if you would like to check your "facts" next time.

NICK BENEDICT, VP EXTERNAL
SSMU

"Special interest" propaganda

TO THE DAILY,

This letter is in response to the editorial note that followed the letter from me published on 950116. In your note you suggest that farmers deduct travel costs from the pay of offshore labour from special interest groups on which you base your articles. I am in agreement with the various writers of letters I've seen to the *Daily* condemning your publication. You have so much potential that is so pitifully wasted by tabloid journalism.

The fact of the matter is that farmers can deduct 2.5 per cent of a worker's wage for associated costs. There is no separate deduction for plane fare, housing, hydro, water, heat, fees imposed on the farmers by the organisers of migrant labour programs, or local transport for grocery shopping. In the minimal case where a worker puts in 40 hours per week for four months, this deduction will come to about \$112. To be fair, the average worker on farms puts in per-

haps 60 hours per week, so the deduction would be on the order of 180 for a season. This hardly begins to cover travel costs and all the other associated costs listed above. Alone, the administration fees (paid by farmers) per worker are about \$150, if I remember correctly.

You have absolutely no idea of what is involved in the migrant labour programs. It's troubling because as it stands less than 5 per cent of the population is directly involved in agricultural production. In the past, where 3040 per cent of people were farming, they would be quick to recognise that what you publish is rubbish. But today you at the *Daily* really have great potential to influence people wrongly with your poorly researched articles.

BRADLEY ROMANEK
U3 EDUCATION

Hindu fundamentalism shocking

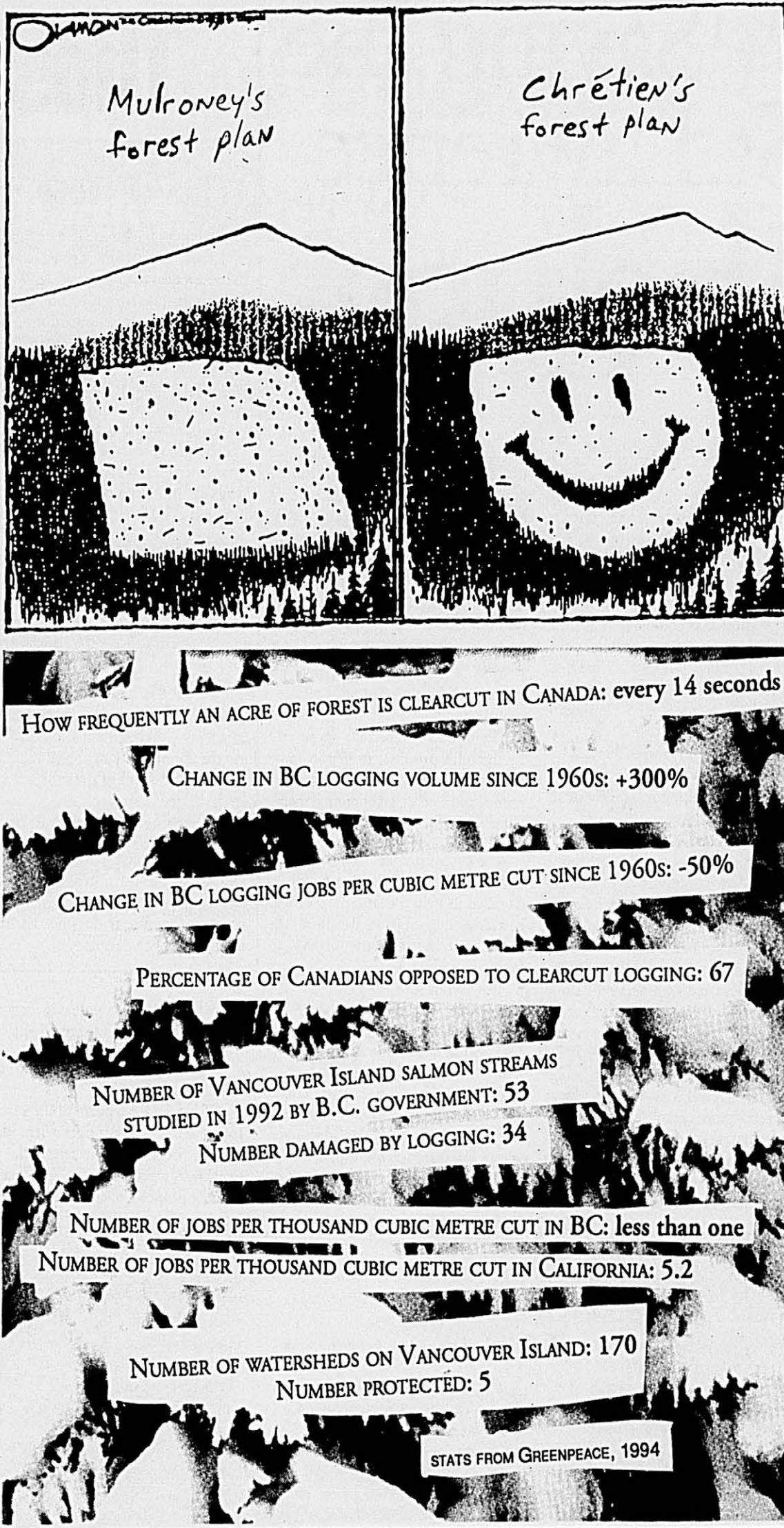
TO THE DAILY,

The two page article "One Hindu Nation?" advocating Hindu fundamentalism in the January 16 edition of the *McGill Daily* by Kabir Ravindra is indeed shocking. The article is based on an interview with former Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana, Justice J.V. Gupta. There are many enlightened Justices in India, for example Mr. V.M. Tarkunde, the former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India and the founder of the People's Union for Civil Liberties. The fact that Mr. Ravindra chose to interview Justice Gupta, a member of the Hindu ultra right-wing organization RSS (Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, linked to the assassination of Gandhi, numerous riots against the Muslim community, the demolition of the Babri Mosque on December 6, 1992 and much more), and not the likes of Justice Tarkunde, reflects his own admiration for Hindu fundamentalism.

Since there is little substance in the article, it is difficult to add any in a reply. Justice Gupta need not moan "that Hindu society is being divided on the basis of caste". It cannot be otherwise since the only universal feature of Hinduism is its caste system, which has denied basic human dignity to nearly 30 per cent of India's "untouchables" for thousands of years, and is part of the reason why a good number of Indians converted to Christianity or Islam. Fortunately, many more identify themselves as Indians rather than as Hindus or Muslims.

The article asserts that the "main problem of India... is that the majority community, which are Hindus, are disorganized" and the "day Hindus organize, then there will be true unity between the Hindus, Muslims and Christians". The only basis for an organization of majority Hindus can be to force Muslims and Christians into submission and name it unity. That indeed will be tragic. India can prosper only as a secular country in which over 150 million Muslims and all other religious minorities enjoy equality, and not as a Hindu Nation.

DAYA R. VARMA
PROFESSOR OF PHARMACOLOGY



The *Daily* is launching a new project: **Theme Teams**. Today, Wednesday, at 17h30, teams on Gender and Sexuality, and Race and Nationhood will be meeting in the *Daily* office: Shatner B03.

We'll coming up with story, graphic, and photo ideas on these themes, and talking about how to cover these issues in new and innovative ways. Everyone is welcome; come with ideas, or just to listen.

Saving the St. Lawrence belugas

BY AUBREY COHEN

The St. Lawrence river beluga whale has more than 10 times the concentration of PCBs of the Arctic beluga whale. This is one of the greatest threats to the beluga population in the river says Dan Green of the Société pour l'arrêt de la pollution (SVP).

It has been estimated that the population of beluga whales at the turn of the century was in the thousands. Now the estimates are around 50 individuals. According to Natalie Zinger, co-chair of the committee and director for Québec for the WWF, there are several factors responsible for the decline in the beluga population.

One element was hunting in the early part of the century. A more modern problem is pollution. Zinger reported that tests of beached whales revealed that they were "loaded with contaminants of all kinds." She noted that the contaminants include PCBs, DDT, Myxex and some heavy metals.

As for how the contaminants affect the whales, Green said, "there seems to be a kind of scientific unanimity that the PCBs affect the immune system of the beluga whale... There seems also to be an adverse effect on reproduction." Green also indicated that the beached beluga cows showed signs of breast infections, and that there may be a link between the pollutants and cancer.

According to Green, the level of PCBs in the St. Lawrence increases dramatically after the river flows past Montréal and other industrial centres.

Zinger observed that this has implications for people as well because the whales eat many of the same fish we do. Much of the contamination is likely found in these fish. Perhaps more importantly, she noted, the whales "are swimming in the water we're drinking."

In June of last year, a joint committee of 10 experts from the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada was formed to study the problems affecting the beluga whale and to develop a recovery plan for the animals.

The committee was formed after an effort by Fisheries and Oceans Canada failed to help the situation. Zinger noted that the beluga whale will be "the first marine species within Canada to have a recovery plan."

But Green said his group is "very nervous the way things are going." He explained that Fisheries and Oceans Canada "seem to be dragging their feet a bit" with regards to the plan.

Nevertheless, Zinger commented that although no formal release date has been set, the plan should be completed this summer. She explained that the plan will "identify what are the limiting factors and the threats to the beluga whales. It's also going to suggest ways of counteracting or removing the threats."

BY ANUP GREWAL

The Island of Montréal is currently involved in a long running debate over the best way to manage its waste. While community and citizen's action groups are fighting for waste reduction, a coalition of 26 mayors has been busy signing a secret contract for incineration with Foster Wheeler, an American multinational company which critics say has a dubious record.

According to Michel Séguin, co-president of Action RE-buts, the Montréal Coalition for Ecological and Economical Waste Management, "[Montréal is] very far behind other communities in doing the three-Rs [reducing, reusing and recycling], and on that level it is frustrating to hear industry and politicians talk about waste management and then not come through."

Action RE-Buts was formed in 1991 after the Régie Inter-ministère de Gestion Déchets Sur L'île de Montréal (RIGIDM), a coalition of 26 municipalities, decided to build an incinerator to burn waste.

According to Véronique Munier, an active member of the Québec Public Interest Research Group (Q-PIRG) and Action RE-buts, "many engineers and citizen's groups are against the incinerator because it does not address the needs of the population".

Munier claims that "this is not waste management because [it takes away] from efforts to recycle, sort, or reduce waste".

The contract states that Montréal must provide a minimum of 350 000 tons of materials which can be incinerated. Critics see this contract as counterproductive for waste reduction.

Since 1991, Action RE-buts has been making an effort to "educate people about alternative methods [of waste management] before paying billions of dollars on incineration" says Séguin.

One of the biggest obstacles in the lobby against the incinerator which is set to be built in Montréal East, is that if RIGIDM breaks the contract with Foster Wheeler, RIGIDM must pay 10 billion dollars.

Josée Methot, director general of RIGIDM declares that "we are not discussing the contract...the contract holds". Methot explains that RIGIDM and Foster Wheeler are waiting for the approval of the provincial government and that no construction has yet begun.

If the province does not approve the project, a penalty payment will have to be made to Foster Wheeler as well.

Despite the seeming impossibility of arresting the construction of the incinerator, Séguin seems optimistic. "RIGIDM has spent millions of dol-

lars to convince citizens that the incinerator is a good idea. But despite that, small groups of people with hardly any means are [fighting]".

Séguin claims that people see that "spending money to get out of the contract is better than going ahead with it"

"People realise that there is too much garbage, and you cannot hide the evidence; it will come back to haunt you. We must find real solutions and not fall into magic thinking," says Séguin.

Séguin sees the collaborative effort for effective waste management positively.

"The peculiarity of waste management is that it brings citizens together with environmentalists because it is [both] a quality of life and a social justice issue. This explains why there are more [city's organisations [than big groups] working on it"

Hence, the debate between RIGIDM and Action RE-buts over the best way to manage waste continues. Methot argues that the incinerator is just one part of the contract. She claims that "we also want to improve recycling but there are some things that just

Those damned Foster Montrealers

"On time" Québec strengt

BY KATRIN FHIMA

Since a growing number of non-custodial parents default on their child support payments, Québec will soon deduct child support payments directly from pay cheques. By the end of this year, the province will follow the lead of Ontario, which has already had a similar system in place for a couple of years, deducting the payments regardless of whether the payee is in arrears or not.

Under the new law, employers will be responsible for ensuring that up to a maximum of 50 per cent of the pay cheques of parents in arrears is deducted and sent to his or her family.

This decision has been greeted with a lot of enthusiasm by various women's organisations across the province, which have been fighting for a change in legislation for years.

Québec finally decided to make back-sliding on payments harder due to the tenacity and perseverance of Focus, a charitable organisation which provides financial, legal and moral support to single parents.

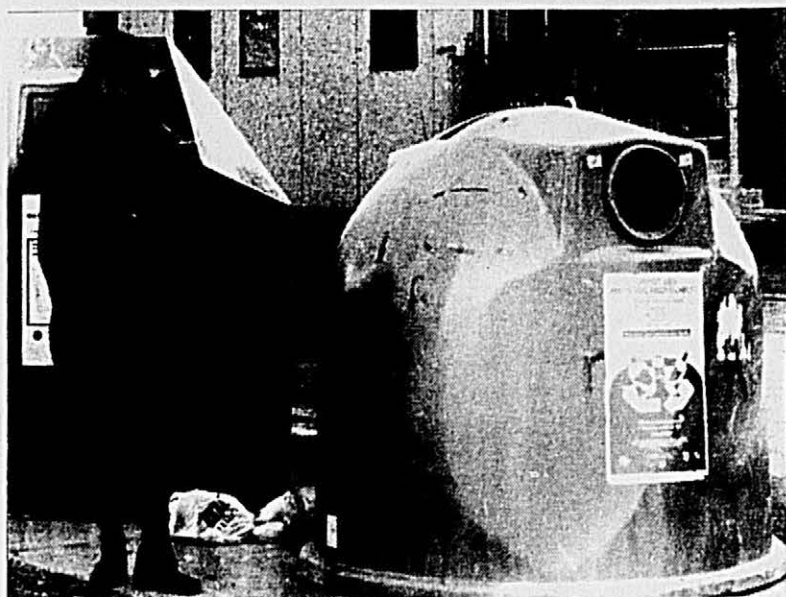
Michelle Daynes, founder and head of Focus, says she believes that, while this piece of legislation is undoubtedly a step in the right direction, there is a lot more that could be done.

Daynes is speaking from experience. A single mother herself, who is

TRASH AND BELUGAS CAN'T HAVE IT BOTH WAYS

Wheeler dealers

s still fighting the urge to burn



that only one in three houses in the city of Montréal are part of a recycling programme. There is a lot of work still to be done.

As part of Action Re-but's ongoing education about waste management it has recently published "The Citizen's Intervention Guide".

"The Guide is trying to address many different ways for people to [be active]. It gives the tools for people to form groups, to join existing groups and to do individual action as well" explains Seguin.

"Environmentalists are often called idealists and utopian, but the real utopians are those who are trying to sell these schemes for millions of dollars to get rid of garbage. They are the dreamers"

The guide reflects this activist-oriented, community level approach and gives practical information to those who are opposed to the current waste management programme.

The Citizens Intervention guide can be obtained by calling Q-PIRG/Action Re-buts at 398-7457, or at their office at 3647 University Avenue, 3rd floor. It is available in both English and French.

"THE CITIZEN'S INTERVENTION GUIDE" PUBLISHED BY ACTION RE-BUTS GIVES PRACTICAL, ACTION-ORIENTED ADVICE TO MONTREALERS OPPOSED TO OUR CITY'S WASTEFUL WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS.

cannot be recycled and incineration is the best technology for [those things]".

On the other hand, Munier says that the incinerator plan is indicative of "the tendency to work on big projects that don't really help reduction".

Action RE-buts advocates community coordinated waste management on a small scale. Munier explains that "selective dumping can be used as a last resort".

Right now, Munier and Séguin cite

me and In full"

gthens child support payments

trying to raise two children and hold down a challenging job, she has already spent years grappling with the legal system in an attempt to ensure that both parents share the financial burdens of raising a family.

For non-custodial parents determined not to contribute to the costs of child-rearing, telling barefaced lies in court was apparently the easiest and most effective way of ducking the responsibility. In many cases, the father would plead poverty or reduced financial circumstances, only to turn around and buy himself a brand new car the very next month.

Amy Williams, head of the National Council of Women Canada, estimates that roughly 60 per cent of all non-custodial parents default to some extent on their payments, 98 per cent of which are men.

Payments are supposed to be based on the financial ability of both parents to pay, but this only takes visible earn-

ings into account. Obviously the system would benefit more flexible judgements which take into account all the circumstances.

In the Northwest Territories, a judge recently ordered one 'dead-beat dad' to deliver his payment in the cash equivalent of Caribou, as the man had stated that this was the only form of income he possessed.

Closer to home, Daynes is advocating the Credit Bureau consider legal judgements involving non-custodial parents when calculating a person's credit rating. If child support payments are owed, they should be considered a financial liability. Daynes noted that disposable income should also be calculated taking these payments into account.

As it stands, banks and other financial institutions are under no obligation whatsoever to consider these factors. Consequently, should the non-custodial parent have problems

ever assets are left, leaving child-support payments at the end of the line.

Focus is also pushing for the province to set up a child-support payment fund, whereby children legally entitled to payments would automatically be covered by the province should these funds not be forthcoming.

Although at first glance this might seem to be a very costly option, it would actually prove a lot less costly than the \$1,400 it needed to support a family of three on welfare for one month. Combined with harsher measures for defaulting parents, such as weekends in jail, the fund could mean a guaranteed income for the single parent family, allowing it some small measure of financial security. No official government spokesperson was available to comment on this.

Statistics show that single mothers and their children make up the poorest segment of Canadian society. An extra few dollars a week could be the difference between making ends meet and living in abject poverty.

Daynes commented that the best way to improve the lot of single mothers would be to persuade the majority of people that the principle losers are the children in these situations. She added that the bitterness of divorce must not be allowed to prevent children from receiving adequate financial care.

For now, Focus will continue its court battles with the province to try to get further improvements, hoping to translate its slogan of 'On time and in full' into actual fact.

Focus would appreciate any donations to support its efforts to assist single mothers. Call 729-9964.

White South African businessmen block blacks

White businessmen in the South African town of Matatiele erected roadblocks on Thursday to prevent blacks who are boycotting their shops from buying from black-owned shops, police said. Blacks in Matatiele in the Kwa Zulu-Natal province have boycotted white and mixed-race shops for the past week in protest against the eviction of more than 5,000 black squatters from nearby farmland.

Source: Reuters and the New York Transfer News Collective

Brazil police, army attack Indians

Brazilian police and soldiers attacked Amazon rainforest Indians who oppose a dam project, an Indian rights group said on Thursday. The private Indian Council of Roraima state said in a statement that around 50 police officers and seven soldiers severely beat two members of the Macuxi Indians group, assaulted seven others, destroyed three huts, fired guns and exploded a bomb.



The Macuxis live in a remote village on the banks of the Cotingo which officials in Roraima state want to dam to provide power for the region. Commission members have said the dam will reduce the

amount of water reaching the Macuxis, who depend largely on fish as food. The arrival of hundreds of construction workers will also wreak havoc with traditional Indian ways of life. Gilberto Inacio de Araujo, Roraima's Environment Secretary, said in a recent interview with Reuters: "This project would be useful for (the Indians), they're crazy about the idea. It would bring them work. It would be great for them."

Source: Reuters and the New York Transfer News Collective

Colombian rebels free prisoners without a shot

Marxist guerrillas managed to free all prisoners from a municipal jail in Colombia's southwest without firing a shot, judicial police said Sunday. Police told local radio the rebels arrived at the jail early Sunday dressed in official military garb and told the guards they had come for an inspection. They then overpowered the guards and opened the doors to all the cells, freeing nearly 100 inmates. A judicial police officer said they were searching for the freed inmates and that at least 25 of them had voluntarily returned to the prison. Local radio said some of the escaped prisoners were likely guerrillas.

Source: Reuters and the New York Transfer News Collective

Egyptian journalists rally against government

Egyptian journalists staged a rally at their union building on Wednesday after days of conflict with the government over the arrest of Adel Hussein, secretary-general of the Labour Party and a regular writer for al-Shaab, and a new law extending tenure for government-appointed editors for an extra five years. Five journalists have been on a hunger strike for up to eight days to protest the arrest.

Hussein, has been in jail three weeks on suspicion of possessing leaflets from the Gama'a al-Islamiya (Islamic Group), which has been leading a three-year campaign of violence to overthrow the government and establish a strict Islamic state. More than 580 people, mostly militants and police, have been killed in the violence.

Source: Khaled Dawoud, Reuters and the New York Transfer News Collective

Trinidad seeks Panama help to stop nuclear ship

Protest against a proposed shipment of nuclear waste through the Caribbean next month is growing. Trinidad and Tobago, which have joined other Caribbean islands that are objecting to the passage, is now seeking support from Panama, Agriculture Minister Keith Rowley said last Thursday.

According to Greenpeace, the exact route of the shipment was yet to be revealed, but officials claim a British freighter carrying plutonium from France to Japan is expected to pass through the Caribbean Sea via the Panama Canal.

Greenpeace's flagship "Rainbow Warrior" docked here on Wednesday to drum up support against the ship's passage through the region. According to Greenpeace official Tom Clements, the ship is expected to transport some 3,200 glass cylinders of nuclear waste on a two-week voyage to Japan.

Source: Reuters and the New York Transfer News Collective

US Marines will soon sail for Somalia

The Pentagon, with a sharp warning to unruly Somali factions, said on Tuesday an "overwhelming" force of 2,600 US Marines will sail for the troubled African nation this month to help withdraw UN peacekeepers. "It will be a force to reckon with. And we would strongly discourage any faction to even consider in any way interfering with that operation," Pentagon spokesman Dennis Boxx told reporters.

President Bill Clinton announced in December that American Marines, backed by warplanes and attack helicopters, would support the final withdrawal of all UN troops from Somalia by the end of March. The UN Security Council agreed on November 4 to end its costly Somalia mission, calling for a secure and orderly withdrawal of its remaining troops by March 31. UN troops remaining in Somalia include 5,800 from Pakistan, 1,600 from Bangladesh, 1,100 Egyptians and smaller numbers from other countries.

Source: Charles Aldinger, Reuters and the New York Transfer News Collective

Single mothers and their children make up the poorest segment of Canadian society.



Coming
Closer!!

Daily elections will
be held at the staff meeting on Thurs-
day, January 26 at 5 pm. If you qualify,

RUN!

Activists accuse the government of ignoring social inequities

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

1992. In 1986, 60.5 per cent of minimum wage earners in Canada were women, even though women only make up 52 per cent of the population.

Statistics Canada's 1993 *Review of the Situation of Women in Canada* showed that 68.3 per cent of all part-time workers in Canada are women. This last figure suggests that women are more likely to be repeat users of unemployment insurance.

"Because women's work cycles are interrupted by the demands of family life upon their time and labour, and also because women are concentrated in precarious, insecure employment, women will be adversely affected by lower benefit rates to frequent claimants," said Thobani.

Women united in protest

NAC is not the only women's organisation which opposes the proposals. In December, a coalition of four women's groups — the Canadian Congress for Learning Opportunities for Women, the Canadian Farm Women's Education Council, the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women and the National Organisation of Immigrant and Visible Minority Women of Canada — produced a joint response to the Axworthy reforms.

The response lists 38 points which must be included for any social security reform to work in Can-

ada. The demands focus on improved education for all women in Canada, including language training in English and French for immigrants, refugees and people of colour, regardless of citizenship or residency status.

Better child care and "job creation strategies, pay equity, employment equity and measures for the integration of paid and unpaid work responsibilities" should also be high on the government agenda, says the coalition.

The response paper also frankly opposes the mandatory job training suggested in the federal government's discussion paper, and calls for the unemployment insurance program's current autonomy from job training programs to be maintained.

It demands that the government investigate alternatives to ICLRs which do not penalize people "on social assistance; who do not enter [university] directly from secondary education; who take longer to complete [university] because of interruptions in education; who are unable to secure well-paying work on completing their education; who need to cover costs for child care, counselling or other non-tuition items as part of their education."

What about alternatives?

Women's groups have joined several student and anti-poverty organisations, and unions in questioning why the government has targeted

DEFYING THE FREE MARKET IN FASHION

Ethical traders redefine the international clothing biz

BY SUMITA BIDAYE

TORONTO (CUP) — Often the clothing produced by artisans in the so-called "Third World" is worn in industrialized nations for fashion without any thought to how it was manufactured. The cultural significance of these clothes is ignored, yet tainted, by the economic decision makers who exploit workers in the name of profit.

Textile makers once designed clothing to express their cultural identities, which were rooted to their lifestyles. Today many are forced to sell both their clothes and identities to large scale commercial importers just to survive. Pier One Imports, which has stores here in Montréal, is one of the biggest such importers, with 30 stores in Canada and over 600 in the US.

Tory Mercer of Pueblo to People, a Texas-based Alternative Trading Organization (ATO), says that those who sell their work independently are constantly striving to make enough money to feed their families and to pay for supplies like dye.

He also says that tourists and large-scale buyers stroll around the markets searching for the best price, purposely waiting until the very end of the day, when the artisans are so desperate to earn money that they sell their goods at terribly inequitable prices.

Sweatshop working conditions are just as bad. In Latin America, most of the clothing produced is designated for the United States for brand names such as Levi's, Liz Claiborne, Sears and Ocean Pacific. These companies escape the labour and minimum wage legislation in their own countries by operating in the Third World, where labour is cheap.

According to Barbara Strong, a

Canadian human-rights advocate, women are paid between \$1 and \$2 American for a 16-hour workday, six days a week.

The *Multinational Monitor*, a magazine which follows the political situations in various countries, re-

mistreats your belly. It is hard to stand up for so long." Also, workers are seldom protected from toxic chemicals and dust, to which they are constantly exposed when dying cloth.

In many countries, more than half of all pesticides such as paraquat are applied to cotton. One nurse at a clinic in Guatemala's cotton-growing region says, "We treat 30 or 40 people a day for pesticide poisoning." Many of these chemicals end up in water systems, making the water toxic.

At the same time, developments are occurring with the slow growth of ATOs like the coffee manufacturer Bridgehead, run by OXFAM, which has set up a training centre promoting economic empowerment for women in Ahmedabad, India. Each full-time worker is paid 900-1,000 rupees a month, compared to the 300 rupees they would earn working in a local mill. Even so, it still means only about \$50 a month.

Another ATO, the Tara Project, run in New Delhi, India, pays its workers 30 to 100 per cent more than its commercial counterparts.

There are critics who say that ATOs do the

same thing as the corporations, only to a lesser degree, but ATOs do seem to offer safer and more equitable solutions to the problem of exploitation in the international clothing and textile trade.

In their own shops, ATOs charge higher prices for clothing from Third World manufacturers, but the earnings do reach the people who actually made the clothes — paying them a more equitable share and supporting their attempts to have some control over their own destinies.

— with Daily files



IN THE TRADITION OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT, CHER CONQUERS EGYPTIAN FASHION

ports frequent instances of forced overtime and sexual abuse, as well as respiratory problems like asthma attacks because of cotton dust.

In most cases, there is no government enforcement of factory standards. Many Zapotec weavers in Mexico complain of exhaustion, back pains and other physical ailments.

"When you get pregnant, you feel the strain of weaving," says Josefina Vasquez, a Mexican weaver, adding, "With the first child, a lot of weavers feel the pain because the loom

social programs as a means of attacking the national debt.

"Our tax system is unfair and discriminatory," according to a NAC report on Canadian social policy. Citing statistics from the Canadians Advisory Council on the Status of Women, the report notes, "Forty-four per cent of government revenues are paid from personal income taxes, and only 8 per cent from corporate income taxes. In 1950, corporations paid 29 per cent of the government's revenues, amounting to a reduction of 21 per cent. Canada's corporate interest rates are the lowest in the G-7 countries, and personal income taxes are the second highest in the G-7 countries."

According to the Action Canada Network corporations owe the 30 billion dollars a year in uncollected taxes, whereas spending on social programs amounts to 6 per cent of the

deficit and just 2 per cent of the debt.

When he spoke at McGill last October, Lloyd Axworthy was questioned about why the government has been so lenient about taxing large corporations. Axworthy replied that he did not see a corporate tax as a viable solution to the nation's troubled finances, but that government was looking into it.

Some feminists, like Mulay, say this is not enough.

"In my estimation the time for these quick fix solutions has gone. There needs to be a radical new way of looking at the problem. The government's proposals presuppose that there is a way in which the system can be fixed. The reality is that there are not going to be all that many jobs out there," said Mulay.

She added that people should not simply accept the idea that full employment is unacceptable, and

should fight against the growing power of multinational corporations to define social policy.

"With the globalisation of the economies, and what you see with NAFTA and the GATT, you see a whole position of multinational corporations who are able to dictate to governments, not just Canada but the US and so on," observed Mulay, noting, "It makes it difficult to stand up and say 'this is not right.' But I think people have to take a stand. If they acquiesce and accept what is happening then bit by bit the social programs that are there are going to be demolished, then it will be very difficult to get them back later on."

The National Action Committee on the Status of Women is among a growing number of non-student organisations supporting next Wednesday's national day of student action.

events

WEDNESDAY

• **McGill Women's Union** cordially invites all women to attend our Open House, Thursday January 19, from 17h-19h in Shatner 423. Come and find out what we are all about. All women are welcome. Tea and cookies will be served. Bring your own mug.

• **Quebec Public Interest Group (Q-PIRG)** meeting. Leacock 232, 18h30. on Thursday, January 19. Keynote speaker: Dimitri Roussopoulos, Montreal editor, writer, economist and

controversial anarchist. Come find out how you too can get involved in Montreal's social and environmental change movement.

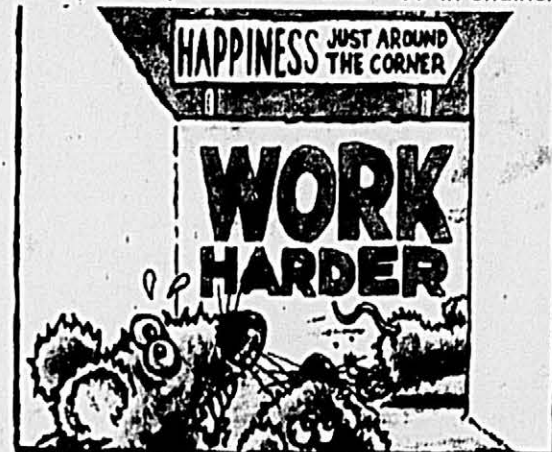
• **Ski trip** to Mt. Tremblant with the Japan Awareness Club Sat. Jan 21. Bus leaving at 07h30 and returning at 19h at Shatner building. Members: \$34, and nonmembers: \$39. Rentals \$8. Sign up in the lobby of the Arts Building by Jan. 19. Call 398-9153 for info.

• **The Big Buddies** tutoring club is holding its opening meetings for new members on Thurs. Jan 19 in Shatner 107 at 19h and

on Tuesday, Jan 24 in the Shatner Cafeteria at 19h.

• **Canadian Studies Graduate Students' Association** will be holding a General Meeting Thursday, January 19, at 17h in the Thompson House. All graduate students with an interest in the study of Canada are welcome.

• **The McGill Taiwanese Student's Association (MTSA)** will hold a general meeting to elect a new VP external and pass a new constitution, January 19th at 17h30, in the Union Building, rm 107. For details contact Joe at 465 3949.



Thursday
• **McGill Taiwanese Students Association** is holding its 1995 Reunion Night on January 20th. In Chinatown. Buffet Supper with Karaoke, \$10 for members, \$12 for non-members. For details, call Helen at 284-3482.

Saturday
• **AIDS Awareness Conference** Sat. Jan 21 at 9h in the Shatner Centre. Students \$5 (includes lunch, evening banquet, and dance)
• **Caribbean Students' Society** party on Saturday January 21, in the Shatner Building, Room B 9-19. Members \$3, non-members \$4. Call 989-9127 or 938-1382

Sunday
• **Temple Emmanuel-El-Beth Shalom** programming committee invites you to a Tea and Timpani. Enjoy conversation with your friends, tea and sweets - all with background music for your pleasure. Sunday January 23rd at 14h. 4100 Sherbrooke Street West, Westmount. (enter on Elm). Metro Atwater. For information call, 937 3575.

Monday
• **Shakti Women of Colour Collective** will have a meeting on Monday January 23rd at 16h30 in the Q-PIRG offices at 3637 University (just below Pine). We will be organizing events for International Women's Week.
• **Mon Jan 23, 13h30 to 14h30. Arts Rm 160. PC** McGill holds its first General Meeting in 1995. Keynote speaker: Jodi White, chief of staff to former PM Kim Campbell, on the Future of the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada. Refreshments will be served.
• **Indian Canadian Students Association (ICSA)** General Body Meeting to be held Mon Jan 23 at 18h in Shatner 310.

Tuesday
• **Japanese language courses**, levels 1 to V, will be offered beginning January 24, on Tuesday

or Thursday evenings for 10 weeks. Price \$110. For info or to register, call 728 5580.

Wednesday, Jan. 26
• **Concordia Irish Lecture Series:** Seamus Connolly, Boston College. Topic: "Traditional Irish Music: Forms and Themes". Hall Building Room H507, 1455 de Maisonneuve Boulevard West. Thursday, Jan. 26, 20h30
• **McGill Interdisciplinary Seminar.** Speaker Max D. Hopper talking on "Competing in a Networked World". At the Faculty of Law, Chancellor Day Hall, 3644 Peel street, rm 101. January 26, 16h30 to 18h.

Ongoing
• **HIV/AIDS Education and prevention workshops** for women: Sat and Sunday from 10h to 15h until the end of January. Free. Call Rita at 989-7997 to register.
• **Latitudes**, the McGill Journal for Developing Areas Studies is accepting submissions of interdisciplinary, undergraduate papers relating to developing area issues. Submit two copies of papers to the Latitudes mailbox, opposite the SSMU desk in the Shatner lobby. Deadline: January 31. Call 279-5413.
• **Montage**, the Dept. of English Students' journal is accepting submissions for the 1995 issue. Poetry, prose, photography, artwork, essays, doodles, etc. are welcome. Place submissions in the DESA box in the Porter's office of the Arts Building. Deadline: Jan 31
• **First annual McGill Mixed Media Literary Fest** is looking for submissions. All works to be performed at the "Onenight Event" in Morrice Hall in the first week of April. Works will also be considered for publication in *Montage*. Submissions to DESA by February 1, in the Porter's office of the Arts Building.
• **Drama and Theatre Program** presents *The Servant of Two Masters*. February 811 and 1518. Tix \$10 and \$6 for students. Call 3986070.
• **Scarlet Key Award: Reminder Applications**

and nominations are currently being accepted for the 1995 award. The deadline for applications is Friday, February 17h. Application packages are available at the Students' Society general office. Information: Stephen Lloyd, Selection Committee Chairman, 8786831.

• **The Montreal Assault Prevention Centre** offers a self-defense course for women called ACTION. Each course provides verbal and physical techniques to help women deal with any type of aggression. Age and strength are not important and the techniques are adapted to each woman's abilities. Courses will be on January 22nd and 29th, and March 11th and 18th in English, and on January 21st and 28th, and March 12th and 19th in French. For more information, please call the Centre at 284-1212.

• **Organic Food Co-op** orders organic produce and dry goods every Monday between 12h30 and 18h30 in the QPIRG office. Call 3987432

• **Free Meditation Courses** offered by the Students of Sri Chinmoy on a regular basis. Call for information: 845 1837 (English) or 489 5692 (French).

• **Big Brother needs you!** Jewish Family Services of the Baron de Hirsch Institute is in desperate need of mature and caring males between the ages of 18 and 30, willing to become a Big Brother to a young child. If you are prepared to make a weekly commitment of three hours for at least one year, please call for more information. Please contact Linda Wexler at Volunteer services (342-0000).

• **Tel-Aide**, a telephone crisis line for people in distress, needs volunteers. The line operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. If you are interested in becoming a Tel-Aide volunteer, please contact us at 935-1105.

• **New Hope Centre** is looking for volunteers with cars to take seniors grocery shopping once a week on Friday mornings. These seniors cannot use public transportation and cannot afford taxis. They need your help (Gas paid). Call 484 0425.

Wow!

Check out tomorrow's Daily for details about how YOU can win CD's from MCA or tix to see Carrot Top!!!!

Ads may be placed through the Daily Business Office, Room B-07, University Centre, 9h00-14h00. Deadline is 14h00, two working days prior to publication (e.g. Tuesday, 14h00 for Thursday's McGill Daily).

McGill Students & Staff (with valid ID): \$4.00 per day, 4 or more consecutive days, \$3.50 per day. **General Public:** \$5.00 per day, or \$4.25 per day for 4 or more consecutive days. Extra charges may apply, and prices do not include applicable GST (7%) or PST (6.5%). Full payment should accompany your advertising order and may be made by cash or by personal cheque (for amounts over \$20 only). For more information, please visit our office in person or call 398-6790 - WE CANNOT TAKE CLASSIFIED ADS OVER THE PHONE.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD CAREFULLY WHEN IT APPEARS IN THE PAPER. The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damage due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

1 - HOUSING

Adjacent McGill 3 1/2, pool sauna mountain view balcony sublet April 1st \$588/month heating included 849-7980 or 485-1424.

Condo

Across the street from the McGill campus facing Sherbrooke St. Bright 5 1/2, separate dining room, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Excellent location. Asking \$145,000. Call N. Langevin 284-9115.

Heart of Downtown beautifully renovated apartments at a reasonable price 3 1/2, 4 1/2, available. If interested please call 284-5650 or 849-3897.

McGill University student apts. - immediately - 5 min. from campus - furnished studios/rooms - \$343-\$440 - Rental office 3653 University - 398-8423, 6050.

Occupational Therapy Student female needs place for January. If interested in a roommate for a month please call 284-5728.

2 - MOVERS/STORAGE

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Closed van or truck. Local and long distance. Ott-Tor-Van-NY-Fla. 7 days 24 hours. Low rates. Steve 735-8148.

3 - HELP WANTED

In need of a student to do demographic research on religious communities. For more specific information, please contact Jack at: 343-3600.

Musicircle School is looking for a guitar teacher. Please contact Tanya for interview at 696-8742.

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9 - WANTED TO BUY

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12 - PERSONAL

Andrés SOUSA POZA, recently arrived from South Africa, Engineering Graduate Student, Please call 843-5644 (days) or 489-2787 (eves) for information about your family.

13 - LESSONS/COURSES

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14 - NOTICES

Cuba Spring Break! Only \$685 - Airfare, visa, transfer to hotel & back. Sunny Varadero. 2 per room. 10 universities invited Feb. 19-26. Bookings 989-1017, 935-6029.

GOING TO DAYTONA?

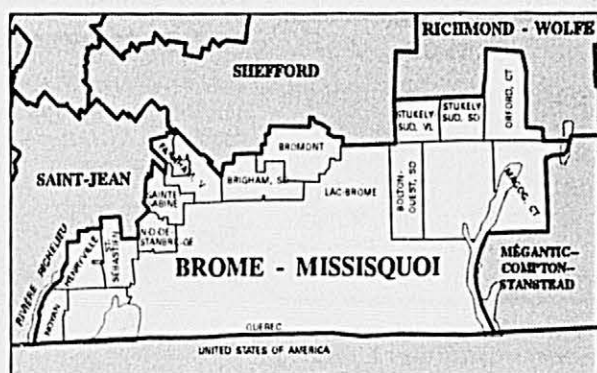
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LBGM discussion grps. Wed. 5:30 Bi-Group Shatner 423. Thurs. 7PM women's grp. Shatner 423. Fri. coming-out 5:30 & General 7PM, 3521 University.

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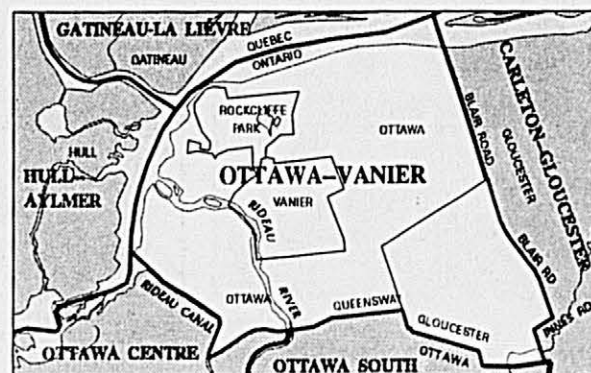
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE FEDERAL BY-ELECTION IN YOUR RIDING?



Riding limits of Brome - Missisquoi, Quebec



Riding limits of Saint-Henri -
Westmount, Quebec



Riding limits of Ottawa - Vanier, Ontario

If your place of ordinary residence is in the federal riding of Brome-Missisquoi (Quebec), Saint-Henri-Westmount (Quebec) or Ottawa-Vanier (Ontario), you may have the right to vote on February 13, 1995, the day a Federal By-Election will be held in each of these three ridings. To be eligible to vote, you must be a Canadian citizen and at least 18 years of age on February 13.

If you will be unable to vote on Election Day, February 13, or during the Advance Polls, on February 4, 6 and 7, you can vote by Special Ballot either in person at the Elections Canada office of one of the above ridings or by mail.

Pick up a copy of the registration form entitled "Voting by Canadians away from their ridings" at your Student Association or Registrar's Office. Or call the number below.

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